



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: RU-0174
Inventors: Bailey and Shao
Serial No.: 09/980,360
Filing Date: April 8, 2002
Examiner: Di Nola Baron, Liliana
Group Art Unit: 1615
Title: Modified Biodegradable Polyester
Microspheres for Stabilizing and
Improving the Release Profile of Drugs
Encapsulated within the Microspheres

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By Jane Massey Licata
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Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This is a reply to the Examiner's Office action mailed
October 17, 2003 setting a three (3) month statutory period for
reply. A request for a one (1) month extension of time and
appropriate fee are filed herewith. Please enter the following
remarks and amendments into the record.

01/27/2004 MDAMTE1 00000032 501619 09980360

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Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.